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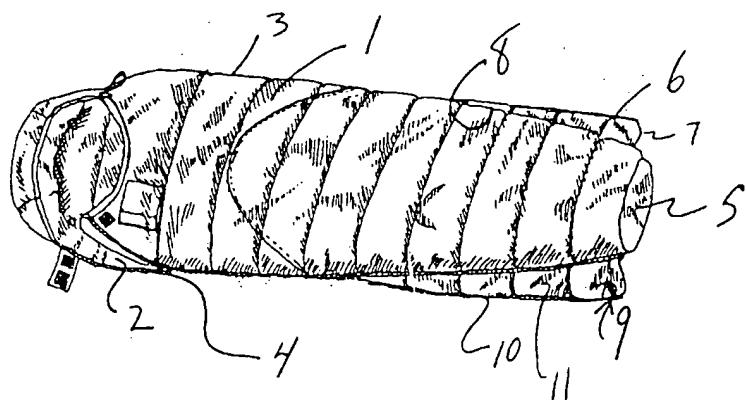
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(54) **SAC DE COUCHAGE**

(54) **SLEEPING BAG SYSTEM**



(57) Sac de couchage de forme conique dont la partie inférieure, plus étroite, est dotée de caractéristiques qui permettent d'augmenter la largeur du sac de couchage.

(57) A sleeping bag has a tapered shape from top to bottom, and is provided with means at least adjacent its bottom end for expanding the width of the bag.



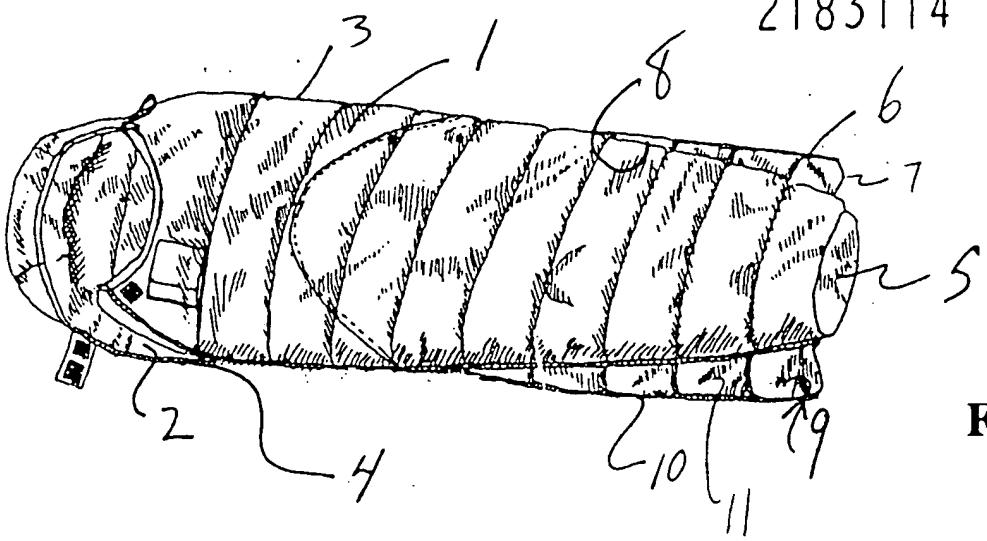


FIGURE 1

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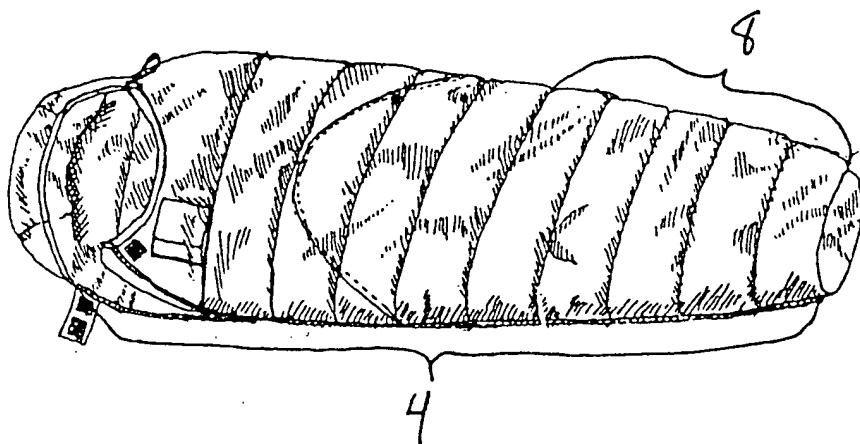


FIGURE 2

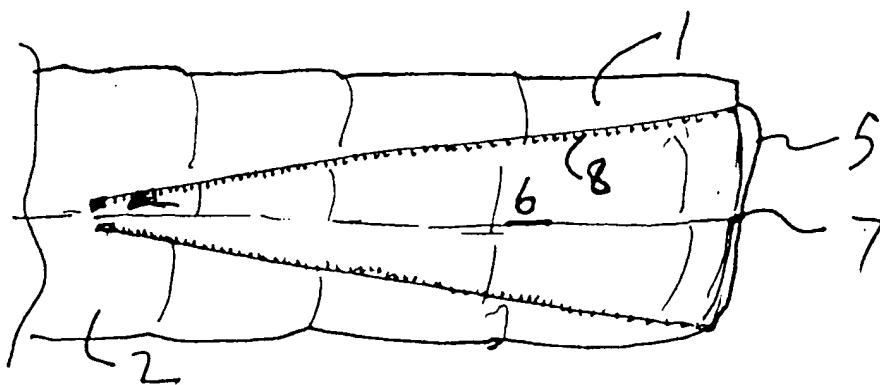


FIGURE 3

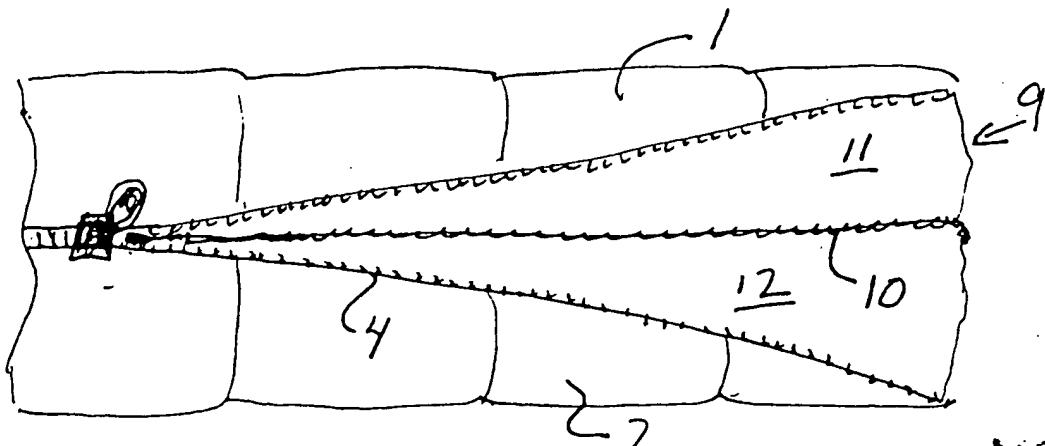


FIGURE 4

The present invention relates to an improved sleeping bag.

Sleeping bags are generally available in two different styles; rectangular, or tapered. Tapered bags, which are often referred to as "mummy bags", are narrower at the foot end than at the head end of the bag. This design permits less air circulation than a wider, rectangular design, and is therefore appropriate for cold weather application. The rectangular bag has a roomier interior, which permits some air circulation, and is therefore an appropriate design for use other than in extreme cold. However, it will be understood that if a rectangular bag is provided with enough insulation, it can be used in cold weather. This, however, increases the cost of the bag, and increases its bulk as well. Since sleeping bags are usually used in situations where bulk is best kept to a minimum, such as camping, or on military exercises, an increase in bulk is not considered desirable, and is to be avoided if possible.

Conversely, the drawback associated with a mummy bag is generally considered to be that its snugness makes it inappropriate for temperate or warm weather use, when some air circulation is desirable. Therefore, many sleeping bag users own two sleeping bags; a warm or temperate weather rectangular bag, and a cold weather mummy bag. This is expensive and requires more storage space than would a single bag.

The object of the present invention is to provide a sleeping bag that is easily and quickly convertible by the user thereof, from a mummy bag to a rectangular bag, and vice versa. The bag of the present invention, moreover, may be configured 5 in a state between that of a mummy bag and that of a rectangular bag.

In a broad aspect, therefore, the present invention relates to a sleeping bag having a tapered shape from top to bottom, provided with means at least adjacent its bottom end 10 for expanding the width of said bag.

In drawings that illustrate the present invention by way of example:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the sleeping bag of the present invention, configured as a rectangular bag;

15 Figure 2 is a perspective view of the sleeping bag of the present invention configured as a mummy bag;

Figure 3 is a left side view of the end of the bag of Figure 1; and

20 Figure 4 is a right side view of the end of the bag of Figure 1.

Referring now to Figure 1, the sleeping bag of the present invention is provided with upper and lower panels 1, 2 sharing a common side edge. The other side edge of the panels is

provided with a two way zipper 4. The bottom of the bag is provided with a small panel 5. It may, if desired, be merely a seam joining the upper and lower panels.

It will be observed from Figure 1 that the upper and lower panels 1, 2 are tapered from top to bottom, in the manner of a mummy bag. However, extending from about the midpoint of the bag, along each edge, to the bottom panel 5, is a wedge shaped panel 6, 9.

As shown in detail in Figure 3, along the edge 3 of the bag defining a common edge of the top and bottom panels, the wedge 6 is a generally triangular panel of quilted, or otherwise insulated material, similar to the material of the sleeping bag, folded along its longitudinal centre line and having its end edges 7 joined together to form a bag-like side extension for the sleeping bag. It may be tucked into the bag, and zipper 8 may be drawn to hold it into the side edge of the bag, as shown in Figure 2. It will be observed, moreover, that when zipper 8 is drawn closed, the shape of the bag is that of a mummy bag (Figure 2). When open, the shape of the bag is rectangular.

As shown in detail in Figure 4, on the opposite, openable edge of the sleeping bag, a similarly shaped wedge 9 is provided. Wedge 9, however, is made up of a top panel 11 and

a preferably congruent bottom panel 12 joined together along their side and bottom edges by a zipper 10. Zipper 10 is required to permit the bag to be fully opened. If it is desired to extend wedge 9, the main zipper 4 is opened from the 5 bottom to the upper end of wedge 9. Zipper 10 is then fastened and drawn closed to form wedge 9. It will be understood that zipper 10 may be located closer to either the top 1 or bottom 2 panels of the bag, or that the wedge 9 may extend fully from either the top or bottom panel, and be fastenable to the other 10 by zipper 10 located substantially on the other.

If desired, only one of the two wedges, 6 or 9, may be used at a time, or they may be only partially extended. This is accomplished by partially closing zipper 8, or main zipper 4 (i.e., with wedge 9 in place).

15 If desired, wedges 6,9 may extend the full length of the bag, to provide the bag with easily adjustable width and/or shape rather than just adjustable shape. In such an embodiment, wedge 6 is preferably the principal means for adjusting the width, so as not to interfere with the operation 20 of the main zipper 4.

The remaining illustrated features of the sleeping bag are shown for exemplary purposes only, and do not form part of the present invention.

It is to be understood that the examples described above are not meant to limit the scope of the present invention. It is expected that numerous variants will be obvious to the person skilled in the field of sleeping bag or camping equipment design without any departure from the spirit of the invention. The appended claims, properly construed, form the only limitation upon the scope of the invention.

THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY
OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

1. A sleeping bag having a tapered shape from top to bottom, provided with means at least adjacent its bottom end for expanding the width of said bag.
2. A sleeping bag as claimed in claim 1, having at least one wedge shaped extension along a side edge thereof, from the bottom of the bag to part way up the side thereof.
3. A sleeping bag as claimed in claim 2, wherein said sleeping bag is provided with a full length zipper along one edge, from top to bottom, separating top and bottom panels of said sleeping bag, to provide an opening.
4. A sleeping bag as claimed in claim 3, wherein said sleeping bag is provided with a zipper along the edge thereof opposite said full length zipper, defining a pocket, to enclose a first wedge shaped extension.
5. A sleeping bag as claimed in claim 4, wherein the extension along the edge opposite the full length zipper extends from about the midpoint of said bag to the bottom thereof.

6. A sleeping bag as claimed in claim 5, wherein said sleeping bag is provided with a second wedge shaped extension, along the edge thereof that is provided with said full length zipper.
7. A sleeping bag as claimed in claim 6, wherein said second wedge shaped extension is made up of two portions, one extending from the edge of the top panel of the sleeping bag, and one extending from the bottom panel of the sleeping bag, said two portions being joinable by a zipper extending around their outside perimeter.
8. A sleeping bag as claimed in claim 7, wherein said two portions of said second wedge shaped extension are located inwardly of side said full length zipper.

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A sleeping bag has a tapered shape from top to bottom, and is provided with means at least adjacent its bottom end for expanding the width of the bag.